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Mysore Residency
Bangalore.

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Bld
18/11/46

Subject.

Representation of Anglo Indian and domiciled European community in the Indian Legislatures

Previous References.

78/33. (k)

Later References.

L.A
14.7.46

R
13/46

S. 97.—(Blue).

MFP—393 S&P—(M-625)—28-7-36—100,000.

NOTES AND PREGIS.

The Bangalore branch of the Anglo-Indian and Domiciled European Association have on more occasions than one expressed their aspirations to share in the administration of British India and for representation in the legislatures. But the Association must be aware of the constitutional difficulties arising out of the history and special conditions of the assigned tract. "The permanent status of the Station is that of an integral part of the Mysore State, though for a special reason the administration of this portion of State territory is carried on by the British Government. The Tract for this reason has no parallel with either Ajmer-Merwara or Delhi, which though also administered by the Government of India like this Station are portions of British India." There are thus insuperable difficulties in the way of granting representation in the British Indian legislatures to a small community in a small tract which is not a portion of British India. Apparently Lieut.Colonel H.A.J.Gidney who represented the Anglo-Indian community at the Round Table Conference, summoned to"discuss the future system of government for India" , and who was also a member of the Franchise Sub-Committee, held no 'brief' for the community in this Station. The new Government of India Act has long been on the Statute Book, and it appears there is no way to accede to this belated representation of the Association. In fact the entire population of the Station is labouring under this disability of absence of representation, and it is not peculiar to one community.

Incidentally the previous representations of the Anglo-Indian community on this subject may be pointed out. In 1916, prior to the Montagu-Chelmsford reforms, the local associations urged the renomination of one Mr.Abbot in the Imperial Legislative Council to represent the community in matters of vital interest to it. But apparently this representation had no parochial basis and had reference to the

entire community in India. The copies of resolutions were duly forwarded to the Government of India, who formally acknowledged their receipt. Then came another representation in 1933 on the eve of the present reforms, when the community specifically asked for their inclusion in the electoral rolls of the Legislative Assembly and the Council of State. The copy of the resolution was again duly forwarded to the Government of India. The utmost that could be done in the circumstances has been done for the community.

It appears, however, the Anglo-Indian and Domiciled European community are not entirely helpless under the present reforms, although there is no provision for the grant of franchise to the residents of this Station. Section 5 of the Government of India Act provides that as from the day to be appointed, there shall be united in a Federation under the Crown by the name of the Federation of India, Governors' Provinces and Indian States which have acceded or may thereafter accede to the Federation. If and when Federation becomes a fait accompli, the Indian States get a right of representation in the Federal Legislature in accordance with the provisions in that behalf contained in the First Schedule to the Act. The representatives of the Indian States ofcourse are not elected but are "chosen and appointed". Mysore has been allotted 3 seates in the Council of State and 7 seats in the Federal Assembly. It appears the community possess sufficient numerical strength in the State and an adequate intellectual advancement to warrant a pressure on the Darbar to reserve one of the 10 seats in the Federal Legislature exclusively for their community. The Association must be aware of this provision and will in due course take steps to avail themselves of the opportunity. Their representation has been formally acknowledged already, and seeing that in similar circumstances the Government of India did just this in 1916 and did not do even as much in 1933, it appears no further reply is necessary. Submitted for orders.

Secretary.

ASRao 14.2.37

(from para 3)

5 (This case has been badly delayed by Judicial Branch in the same way as some other cases to which reference has been made: but the arrears are cleared now, and it may be hoped that nothing of the kind will happen again)

6 Anglo-Indians and Domiciled Europeans residing in the C. & M. Station, which is part of the Mysore State, can have no place in the Legislatures as representatives of British India. That is an inherent result of their own election to take up their residence in a place which is outside British India. If a Federation is established, and the Mysore State accedes to the Federation, they will have the opportunity of seeking nominations as representatives of the Mysore State; but that is all that they can look for. We may reply accordingly.

7. Resd^t is very busy at present. Please put up a draft reply on the lines of para 6 of notes, and Resd^t can then see the file with the draft.

Ure
17.2.37

8 Draft is submitted for approval with reference to para 7.

AsRao
22.2.37

(para 8)

Secretary.

Resdt.

Reply issue?

Ure
23.2.37

I think the draft states the position correctly. It may issue.

[illegible]

S.N.C3, issue

Reply issued

CORRESPONDENCE.

ANGLO-INDIAN & DOMICILED EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION, ALL INDIA & BURMA,

BANGALORE BRANCH.

27, RESIDENCY ROAD,

Bangalore 21/7/ 1936

R 4/36
No.

From,

The President,

Anglo Indian & Domiciled European
Association,

BANGALORE BRANCH.

To,

The Hon'ble the British Resident

In Mysore,

BANGALORE.

OFFICE OF THE RESIDENT IN MYSORE
BANGALORE.
23 JULY 1936
Regd. No. 7244
File. No.

Sir,

I have the honor, under instructions from the Council of the Local Branch of the Anglo Indian and Domiciled European Association of the Civil & Military Station of Bangalore to address you on the very important question of the representation of the Community in this area in the Legislatures of the new Indian Constitution.

You are aware Sir, that the Electrol Rolls are under preparation throughout British India.

At present we are in the peculiar position of being entirely disenfranchised, having no Elected Representation in either the Imperial or Provincial Governments.

We think you will agree Sir, that the time has come when this position ought no longer to exist; in which a large community is debarred from exercising its share of the privileges and responsibilities of the Government of its Country, and we trust that provision has been made for this anomalous position to be remedied under the New Constitution.

This representation is equally applicable to all communities of the station.

We wait the favour of your early instructions and kind advice on this matter.

I Have the Honour
to be
Sir,
Your Most Obedient
Servant,

J. G. H. Deeks.

PRESIDENT.

S. N. 3

3

All communications should be addressed to the Secretary to the Resident in Mysore, Bangalore, by designation and not by name.

No. F.364-37
R.O. I

FROM

The SECRETARY TO THE HON'BLE THE RESIDENT IN MYSORE.

To

The President, Anglo Indian and Domiciled European Association, Bangalore Branch, 27 Residency Road, Bangalore.

Dated Bangalore, 25 March *1937.*

Issued 3.3.37

Representation in the Legislatures as representatives of British India.

SIR,

In continuation of my letter No. D.7244-36/R.O.II, dated the 29th July 1936, I am directed to point out that Anglo-Indians and Domiciled Europeans residing in the Civil and Military Station of Bangalore, which is part of the Mysore State, can have no place in the Legislatures as representatives of British India. That is an inherent result of their own election to take up their residence in a place which is outside British India. If a Federation is established, and the Mysore State accedes to the Federation, they may have an opportunity of seeking nomination to the Federal Legislature as representatives of the Mysore State; but that is the only form of representation that could be open to them.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

for 3/3

SECRETARY TO THE RESIDENT.

KS.